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Message Text

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16
ORIGIN IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY IO/EX/IR:KECARROLL:MIW
APPROVED BY IO:RMOREY
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IO/UN/BAPS:WSOUTHWORTH
---------- 047408
R 190055Z OCT 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, APER, UN
SUBJECT: SYG'S PROPOSAL TO CHANGE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION FORMULA.(FIFTH COMMITTEE)
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1. THE REPORT OF THE SYG ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE SECRETARIAT (A/9724) CONTAINS A PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE PRESENT METHOD FOR DETERMINING DESIRABLE RANGES.

2. THE PROPOSED FORMULA WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF PLACING THE U.S. SOME FIFTY POSTS ABOVE THE MID-POINT OF OUR DESIRABLE RANGE AND WOULD PLACE US IN THE OVER-REPRESENTED CATEGORY BY SOME EIGHT POSTS. AT PRESENT, USING THE CURRENT FORMULA, THE U.S. IS ABOVE THE MID-POINT OF THE DESIRABLE RANGE BY TWENTY FOUR POSTS, BUT IS STILL FIFTY-SIX POSTS BELOW THE TOP OF OUR DESIRABLE RANGE.

3. THERE IS SOME HISTORICAL BASIS FOR THE SYG'S CONTENTION IN HIS REPORT THAT THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF DESIRABLE RANGES WAS DESIGNED TO DEFINE A TRANSITIONAL SCHEME IN WHICH
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LARGE CONTRIBUTORS (E.G. THE U.S.) WOULD MOVE DOWN FROM

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THE UPPER LIMITS OF THEIR DESIRABLE RANGES AS THE SMALLER CONTRIBUTORMOVED TOWARD THE UPPER LIMITS OF THEIR RANGES. NEVERTHELESS, THE PROPOSED FORMULA WOULD SERIOUSLY DISADVANTAGE THE U.S. SINCE, IF ADOPTED, WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING FEWER AMERICANS APPOINTED TO AND WORKING IN PROFESSIONAL POSTS IN THE SECRETARIAT.

4. SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD ALSO BE DISADVANTAGED, E.G. FRANCE AND U.K., SINCE THE PROPOSED FORMULA WOULD MAKE THEM EVEN MORE OVER-REPRESENTED THAN AT PRESENT. OTHER LARGE DONOR COUNTRIES SUCH AS FRG, JAPAN AND USSR ARE CURRENTLY APPRECIABLY BELOW THEIR MINIMUM ENTITLEMENT AND, THEREFORE, WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED IMMEDIATELY BY THE CHANGE.

5. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES BEST TACTIC FOR MISSION TO PURSUE IS TO SEEK TO HAVE SUBJECT OF NEW FORMULA DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT GA ON BASIS THAT GOVERNMENTS HAVE NOT HAD SUFFICIENT TIME TO STUDY AND PREPARE COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT. IF SUCCESSFUL, WE COULD THEN TRY TO PREVAIL ON SECRETARIAT NOT TO INCLUDE THIS RECOMMENDATION IN ITS REPORT NEXT YEAR. KISSINGER

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